

POSSIBLE CHANGES TO REGULATIONS FOR AMERICAN LOBSTER

The Department would like to incorporate the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) Interstate Fishery Management Plan for American Lobster into regulation by reference. As a member of ASMFC, Maryland follows the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for American Lobster. In order to maintain a lobster fishery, Maryland must comply with the management plan and the specific rules for the lobster fishery. Maryland already follows the ASMFC management plan so rather than creating and adopting a management plan specific to Maryland, the Department plans to incorporate the ASMFC plan.